

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 06531 221231Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 A-01 OPR-02 MCT-01 HA-05
ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
EUR-12 /095 W

-----081740 221506Z /46

R 221154Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6352
INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 6531

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS ET
SUBJ: RED TERROR BEGINS TO CLAIM SOME VICTIMS

SUMMARY: WEEK FOLLOWING DEATH OF FORMER PMAC VICE CHAIRMAN
ATNAFU SAW CONTINUATION ASSOCIATION (KEBELE) LEADERS AND DEFENSE
SQUAD MEMBERS, BUT DID NOT INVOLVE ANY HIGH-RANKING GOVT
MEMBERS. LEVEL OF TENSION IN ADDIS HAS PROBABLY IN-
CREASED SLIGHTLY, BUT MILITARY, POLICE AND MILITIA UNITS
APPEAR TO BE ACCEPTING ATNAFU DEATH IN CALM MANNER FOR PRE-
SENT, WITH NO VISIBLE EVIDENCE OF VIOLENT OPPOSITION. END
SUMMARY.

1. PAST WEEK, MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING
DEPT HEAD, HAILE-YESUS WOLDE-SENBET, WAS ASSASSINATED BY
"COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES". MINISTRY WAS FORMERLY AND APPAR-
ENTLY STILL IS ME'I SONE STRONGHOLD, AND HAILE-YESUS
ALLEGEDLY KILLED FOR HIS TIES WITH ME'I SONE. TWO LOWER
RANKING MILITARY OFFICERS, CPL. TSEGAYE MEHARI AND SGT.
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SISAY ASAMINEW, WHO WERE MEMBERS OF ADDIS ABABA REVOLU-
TIONARY DEFENSE AND OPERATIONS OFFICE, WERE ACCIDENTALLY
KILLED BY KEBELE DEFENSE SQUAD MEMBERS. TWO OFFICERS
HAD GONE TO THE KEBELE TO SETTLE A DISPUTE AND WERE UN-
ABLE TO CONVINCE MEMBERS OF THEIR IDENTITY. ARGUMENT
BECAME HEATED AND KEBELE MEMBERS SHOT FIRST AND ASKED QUESTIONS
LATER. ALSO KILLED PAST WEEK WAS KEBELE CHAIRMAN

TADESSE MEKURIA, WHO WAS SHOT IN FRONT OF HIS KEBELE OFFICE DURING FUNERAL PROCESSION WHICH ASSASSINS USED AS COVER. OTHER SHOOTINGS OBSERVED DAILY IN ADDIS BUT HAVE GONE UNREPORTED IN PRESS.

2. EVENING NOV 18 AS PRINCIPAL WEST GERMAN ADVISOR TO ETHIOPIAN POLICE, MAJ. VALENTIN DROVE HIS CAR HOME ON MAJOR, FAIRLY WELL-LIT STREET, FOLLOWED BY SEVERAL OTHER WEST GERMAN CARS, NERVOUS ARMY SENTRY IN FRONT OF BAR-RACKS OPENED FIRE ON MAJ. VALENTIN'S CAR, WOUNDING HIM SEVERAL TIMES IN LEG AND ARM. VALENTIN TREATED AT ETHIOPIAN POLICE HOSPITAL PROMPTLY AND GUARD WAS ARRESTED. FRG AMB. LODGED SHARP PROTEST WITH MOFA, WHICH OFFERED PROFUSE APOLOGIES. HOWEVER, INCIDENT HAS UNSETTLED WEST GERMANS (AND OTHERS) SOMEWHAT.

3. COMMENT: WHILE LEVEL OF GUNFIRE SLIGHTLY DIMINISHED OVER WEEKEND, TENSION IN ADDIS COMPOUNDED BY GOVT SANCTIONED CALLS FOR INCREASED RED TERROR HAVE LED MOST PEOPLE TO EXPECT FURTHER ASSASSINATIONS AND COUNTER-REPRISALS TO CONTINUE FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE. MAY ETHIOPIANS WE KNOW ARE GOING HOME EARLIER THAN EVER. MATHERON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEATHS, TERRORISTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 22-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770432-1250
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 500748
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: RED TERROR BEGINS TO CLAIM SOME VICTIMS SUMMARY: WEEK FOLLOWING DEATH OF FORMER PMAC VICE CHAIRMAN
ATNAFU SAW CONTINUATION ASSOCIATION (KEBELE) LEADE
TAGS: PINS, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
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